

On May 2, 1997, I reached agreement with the congressional leadership on an historic Bipartisan Budget Agreement that balances the budget while honoring our values. Over the next few months, my Administration worked closely with the leadership to translate the agreement into law. On August 5, I was proud to sign two key elements of the agreement—the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 and the Taxpayers Relief Act of 1997. As the current fiscal year comes to a close, we must work together to enact the third element of the agreement, the appropriations bills for fiscal 1998.

But to date, in a number of important instances, the Congress has failed to address matters specifically called for under the agreement. In certain other instances, the Congress has addressed policy issues in ways that make the pending appropriations bills unacceptable. I urge the Congress to approve 1998 spending bills that include the items contained in the agreement and to provide funding for other priority programs.

To give the Congress time to adopt such bills, I have approved this continuing resolution.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
September 30, 1997.

NOTE: H.J. Res. 94, approved September 30, was assigned Public Law No. 105-46.

Statement on the Death of Roy Lichtenstein

September 30, 1997

Hillary and I were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Roy Lichtenstein. He will long be remembered as a defining force in the pop art movement.

We grew to love his trademark Benday dots and striking primary colors, which distinguished his unique art form and altered the landscape of American art. He had a talent for presenting everyday cultural symbols in ways that attracted our attention and gave these images a new meaning. Two years ago, I had the honor of presenting to Roy the National Medal of Arts Award in recognition of his contribution to American art. In addi-

tion, he was especially valued and treasured by us here in the White House because of his generous support for our Arts in Embassies program.

Hillary and I will miss him. Our thoughts and prayers are with his friends and family in this sad time.

Statement on the Report of the Commission on Immigration Reform

September 30, 1997

The Commission on Immigration Reform, chaired by the Honorable Shirley Hufstедler and the late Barbara Jordan, issued its final report today. This report, which reiterates many of the excellent recommendations contained in the Commission's interim reports, further contributes to our country's understanding of the role of immigration in the United States. I commend the Commission's work and its contribution to the national dialog on immigration policy.

America has always been a nation of immigrants, and I am proud of the significant progress my administration has made toward improving America's immigration system. My administration has curtailed illegal immigration through tougher border control, strengthened worksite enforcement, and the removal of record numbers of criminal and other illegal aliens. We have also worked to improve and tighten the naturalization process and have made needed reforms to our asylum system for refugees fleeing persecution.

One of the Commission's recommendations is to restructure the immigration system by reallocating the main functions of the Immigration and Naturalization Service to other agencies. This proposal raises difficult and complex issues which need further consideration. I have asked the Domestic Policy Council to coordinate with the affected Federal agencies to evaluate carefully the Commission's proposal and other reform options designed to improve the executive branch's administration of the Nation's immigration laws.

With this report, the Commission completes its work. I want to thank all of its mem-

bers and staff for their service and contribution on these important issues.

Executive Order 13063—Level V of the Executive Schedule: Removal of the Executive Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, Department of Labor

September 30, 1997

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including section 5317 of title 5, United States Code, and in order to remove a position from Level V of the Executive Schedule, it is hereby ordered that section 1–102 of Executive Order 12154, as amended, is further amended by removing the following subsection from section 1–102: “(b) Executive Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, Department of Labor”; and relettering subsections (c) through (f) as subsections (b) through (e), respectively.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
September 30, 1997.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., October 1, 1997]

NOTE: This Executive order was published in the *Federal Register* on October 2.

Notice—Continuation of Iran Emergency

September 30, 1997

On November 14, 1979, by Executive Order 12170, the President declared a national emergency to deal with the threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States constituted by the situation in Iran. Notices of the continuation of this national emergency have been transmitted annually by the President to the Congress and the *Federal Register*. The most recent notice appeared in the *Federal Register* on October 31, 1996. Because our relations with Iran have not yet returned to normal, and the process of implementing the

January 19, 1981, agreements with Iran is still underway, the national emergency declared on November 14, 1979, must continue in effect beyond November 14, 1997. Therefore, in accordance with section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)), I am continuing the national emergency with respect to Iran. This notice shall be published in the *Federal Register* and transmitted to the Congress.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
September 30, 1997.

**Message to the Congress
Transmitting the Notice on Iran**
September 30, 1997

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice, stating that the Iran emergency declared in 1979 is to continue in effect beyond November 14, 1997, to the *Federal Register* for publication. Similar notices have been sent annually to the Congress and the *Federal Register* since November 12, 1980. The most recent notice appeared in the *Federal Register* on October 31, 1996. This emergency is separate from that declared with respect to Iran on March 15, 1995, in Executive Order 12957.

The crisis between the United States and Iran that began in 1979 has not been fully resolved. The international tribunal established to adjudicate claims of the United States and U.S. nationals against Iran and of the Iranian government and Iranian nationals against the United States continues to function, and normalization of commercial and diplomatic relations between the United States and Iran has not been achieved. In these circumstances, I have determined that it is necessary to maintain in force the broad authorities that are in place by virtue of the